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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Hungary
SUBJECT	Persecution Campaign Against Kulaks

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. As of August 1955, a persecution campaign was in progress against the "kulaks", which includes all peasants with a little property, to force them to join the cooperatives. The campaign centered mainly in the counties of Bács-Kiskun, Csongrád, Szolnok, Fejér, and Komárom.

2. The following method was used: About 40 mobile police, on motorcycles, would arrive from Budapest, and were met by County surrender officials and local tax officials. The whole party then visited a number of "kulak" farms in the neighbourhood, which were thoroughly searched. All livestock, poultry, implements, furniture, and clothes were seized and the "kulaks" were forcibly moved to some state farm about 50-60 km. distant, where they were given work as laborers.

3. Districts were being dealt with in rotation, and so far Szolnok County is known to have been raided; progress in the other counties is not known.

4. If the "kulaks" agreed on the spot to join a cooperative, they were spared, but of course their property immediately became subject to the rules of the latter.

Comment:

It is believed that the chief reason for this quickening of the tempo of collectivization is to enable the authorities to lay hands on the livestock.

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